

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00261 171522Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 NEAE-00 /066 W

----- 001295

P 171330Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5925

INFO USMTM DHAHRAN PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0261

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJ: MODA REQUEST FOR RSAF SURVEY

REF: (A) STATE 08038; (B) JIDDA 5658

1. LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR TO SULTAN INFORMING HIM THAT
USG WILLING UNDERTAKE SURVEY HAD ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED
TO SULTAN'S OFFICE PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF. A; EMBASSY
AMANAGED, HOWEVER, TO RETRIEVE LETTER UNOPENED FROM
SULTAN'S SECRETARY ON PRETEXT THAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
HAD JUST ARRIVED REQUIRING THAT LETTER BE REVISED.

2. TEXT OF LETTER WHICH WE HAD DRAFTED FOLLOWS, QUOTE:

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS: I AM PLEASED TO REFER TO OUR
DISCUSSION OF DECEMBER 13, 1973, AND TO YOUR LETTER OF
THE SAME DATE, CONCERNING YOUR REQUEST THAT THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKE A SURVEY OF THE ROYAL SAUDI
AIR FORCE, WITH THE AIM OF DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE
MASTER PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIR FORCE OVER
THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS. I AM PLEASED TO INFORM
YOU THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO UNDERTAKE THE
SURVEY, WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE COMING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JIDDA 00261 171522Z

MONTHS. THE FINAL PLAN, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ITS

IMPLEMENTATION, WILL BE PRESENTED TO YOUR HIGHNESS IN LATE JULY, PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF YOUR NEW FISCAL YEAR, AS YOU REQUESTED.

FOR THE SURVEY TO BE AS SOUND AND RELEVANT AS NECESSARY, IT MUST OF COURSE BEGIN BY CONSIDERING THE PRESENT CAPABILITIES OF THE ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE. THEREFORE, THE TEAM WILL INITIALLY NEED TO SURVEY RSAF RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES IN THE FIELD OF CORGANIZATION, BASES, EQUIPMENT, MANPOWER, TRAINING, AND LOGISTICS. COMPLETION OF THIS SURVEY WOULD THEN ENABLE THE TEAM TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO MODERNIZE AND EXPAND ALL ASPECTS OF THE AIR FORCE IN THE FUTURE.

COL. COLIN C. REILLY, CHIEF OF THE AIR FORCE SECTION OF THE U.S. MILITARY TRAINING MISSION, RIYADH, WILL BE THE CHIEF OF THE TEAM WHICH WILL CONDUCT THE STUDY. COL. REILLY WILL WORK UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF GENERAL JOHN G. HILL, WHO, AS CHIEF OF THE U.S. MILITARY TRAINING MISSION (USMTM), WILL BE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STUDY. TO CARRY OUT THIS TASK, GENERAL HILL WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO AUGMENT THE EXISTING U.S. AIR FORCE SECTION OF THE USMTM WITH ADDITIONAL SPECIALISTS PROVIDED FROM U.S. AIR FORCE RESOURCES IN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE.

THERE WILL OF COURSE BE NO CHARGE FOR THE SERVICES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. MILITARY TRAINING MISSION NOW IN COUNTRY. IT WILL, HOWEVER, BE NECESSARY TO REQUEST PAYMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN BRINGING ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS TO THE KINGDOM TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY. WE BELIEVE THAT AN "OPEN-ENDED" SALES CASE WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO PROCEED. THIS WOULD ESTABLISH THE FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE STUDY BUT WOULD NOT REQUIRE US TO DETERMINE AT THE OUTSET THE EXACT NUMBER OF MEN NOR THE EXACT KINDS OF EXPERTISE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE PLAN, SINCE THIS WILL BECOME CLEARER AS THE SURVEY AND PLANNING PROCESS PROCEEDS. COLONEL REILLY, AS THE TEAM CHIEF, WILL WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF THIS PAYMENT WITH YOUR STAFF.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JIDDA 00261 171522Z

WE ARE READY TO BEGIN WORK AS SOON AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN SUCH AS YOUR HIGHNESS HAS REQUESTED IS A MOST SERIOUS AND REWARDING UNDERTAKING, IN WHICH WE ARE MOST HAPPY TO PARTICIPATE. SINCE WE ARE ANXIOUS TO BEGIN, I HOPE YOU WILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE INSTRUCT GENERAL ZUHAIR TO OFFER HIS FULL

COOPERATION TO COLONEL REILLY, WHO WILL BE CONTACTING HIM WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO OUTLINE HIS NEEDS FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE. LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL HAVE OUR COMPLETE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THIS ENDEAVOR. WITH BEST WISHES, JAMES E. AKINS UNQUOTE

3. COMMENT: IF WE ARE TO MEET SULTAN'S DESIRED DATE OF JULY 20 (BEGINNING HIS NEW FISCAL YEAR) BELIEVE WE MUST GIVE AFFIRMATIVE REPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SINCE FROM INTERVENING TIME WE MUST SUBTRACT PERIOD REQUIRED TO OBTAIN SAG FUNDING FROM TDY ASSISTANCE AND 4-6 WEEKS FOR USG REVIEW AFTER PLAN IS WRITTEN, BEFORE PRESENTING IT TO SULTAN. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT REQUEST FOR SURVEY OFFERS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE RSAF DEVELOPMENT OVER NEXT 5-10 YEARS, OBTAIN SALES OF U.S. EQUIPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATE USEFULNESS OF USMTM AT TIME WHEN FRENCH AND BRITISH ARE INCREASING THEIR EFFORTS TO PENETRATE MILITARY FIELD. REQUEST WASHINGTON'S AUTHORIZATION TO DELIVER ABOVE LETTER AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT.
AKINS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SURVEYS, AIR FORCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JIDDA00261
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740136/aaaabhep.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 08038; (B) JIDDA 5658
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MODA REQUEST FOR RSAF SURVEY
TAGS: MASS, SA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005